

## **Historic, Archive Document**

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Wrexham  
Strain  
Delphiniums



WINGS DELPHINIUM GARDEN

Box 3380

PORTLAND, OREGON



FOR a number of years several flower lovers in Portland, Oregon, had been importing modern delphinium seed from England and Wales. Two of these amateur enthusiasts, falling in love with the stateliness and wonderful beauty of the Wrexhams and knowing how few people even knew of their existence, decided to do what they could in bringing these majestic flowers to the attention and appreciation of the general public, hence the Wings Delphinium Garden. By the selection of the finest plants and the destruction of all others as well as by continued importation of the finest seed obtainable we have gradually developed a stock of plants and seed which we sincerely believe to be unexcelled both here and abroad in form and color.

We grow delphiniums exclusively and our garden is small—less than an acre. This makes it possible for us to give close attention to every plant and to prevent pollination from inferior blooms. From the first our aim has been to give to America what the famous growers have given to Europe. Of course we had the advantage over them of starting a number of years later than they, thus having the benefit of their pioneer work.

The mild climate of western Oregon is especially favorable for developing perfection in these flowers and their hardy character enables them to do well in more severe climates. We have retained the mental attitude of the flower lover rather than of the commercial grower. We have been tempted to branch out and to grow other flowers commercially but that would withdraw some of our effort from our main aim, the growing of the most perfect delphiniums and so we have refrained.

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If you will remember all this you will not think our prices too high. Watkin Samuel this year has contracted to sell to the American market only through a noted eastern firm. This firm charges five dollars a package for a hundred seeds. We believe our seed to be of the same quality.

## Culture

Sow seed in flats in either greenhouse or hotbed the last of January or early in February. If you have a furnace heated house you may even do it there. Take a flat or box three or four inches deep and place pieces of broken crocks in the bottom to provide plenty of drainage and above this one inch of coarse leaf mold. Growers use various mixtures. If one has it he can use a combination of two parts of broken up turf, one part sifted leaf mold and one part sand. We sow the seed in shallow drills and cover lightly with some of the top compost, under no circumstances deeper than a quarter of an inch.

We water through a piece of cheese cloth or bagging spread over the flat so the seeds will not wash away. Great care must be taken not to let the seeds dry out. They must be kept moist until leaves appear. When the plants have made their first true leaves we transplant to other flats and about April set them out in the open or in a cold climate wait until May. Seed should germinate inside of three weeks but sometimes it takes much longer. Give your plants fine open ground to grow in with cultivation and the proper fertilizer and you will get big returns.

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This year we have a limited number of baby seedlings for sale at \$2.50 a dozen, sold in not less than two dozen lots. These will be large enough to set out in the open and ready for delivery in March, April and May. They will bloom in July and August this year.

Package of 100 seeds, mixed.....\$1.00  
Package of 100 seeds, named varieties..... 1.50  
Package of 100 seeds, named varieties,  
mixed ..... 2.00

All plants and seeds sold are of Wrexham strain.

All orders for seeds or plants must be accompanied by cash, check or money order.



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